# DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE GREEN POWER MARKETING MESSAGES



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Center for Resource Solutions
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### THE CENTER FOR RESOURCE SOLUTIONS

- Domestic Certification Programs
  - Green-e & Green Pricing
- Renewable Energy Partnerships for Public Power
- International Programs
  - Global Guardianship Initiative
  - International Expert Assistance
  - The China Program
- Marketer's Marketers Group



# SURVIVING ON THE ISLAND OF GREEN POWER

- The Marketing Myths vs. The Green Power Reality
  - The "general" marketing theories don't necessarily work on our island
- Our challenge: attracting attention & interest to a new concept while delivering basic technical education
  - Sometimes even getting consumers to change purchasing behavior



### **OUR BALANCING ACT:**

- Attracting Attention & Interest:
   The Visual Component
- Getting People to Say Yes to something new:
   The Textual Component



# ATTRACTING ATTENTION & INTEREST: THE VISUAL COMPONENT

- Creative but Cautious
- Amusing but Accurate
- Specific but SIMPLE
  - Don't forget the fundamentals!



# ATTRACTING ATTENTION & INTEREST: THE VISUAL COMPONENT

- Creative but Cautious
  - Consumers respond to the most familiar
     & aesthetically pleasing renewable images
    - Wind
    - Solar
  - Connect your images of renewables with the expected
    - Nature & environment



Consumers respond to the most familiar renewable images



**ESOURCE SOLUTIONS** 



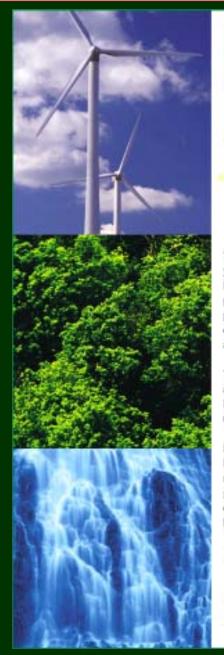
Consumers respond to the most familiar renewable images





Be Creative but Cautious
 Connect with the expected:
 nature & the environment





# Green Power



When you choose green power for your business through Wisconsin Electric's energy for tomorrow<sup>11</sup> program, you're choosing electricity produced from clean, renewable energy sources like wind, wood fuels, and flowing water.

You're also choosing cleaner air, and a better way of doing business. It's an affordable way to demonstrate that you care about the environment.

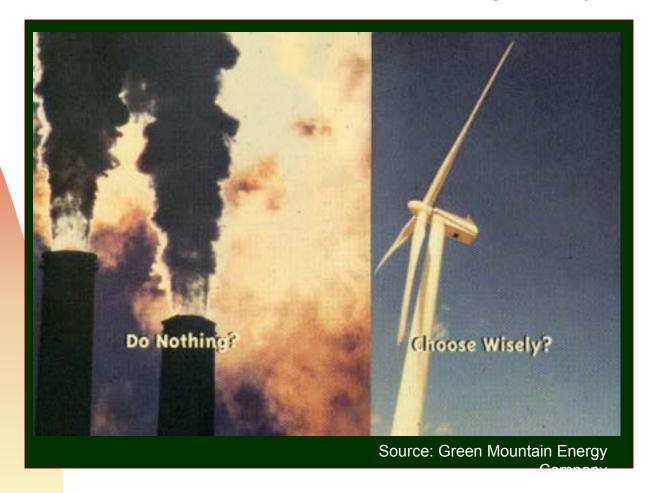
Learn more about Wisconsin Electric's energy for tomorrow<sup>1</sup> renewable energy program. Choose green power as a percentage of your electrical usage or in a fixed block of kilowatt bours.

Call us today at 1-800-714-7777.



Source: Wisconsin

Be Creative but Cautious
 Use familiar images creatively



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**ESOURCE SOLUTIONS** 

Be Creative but Cautious Taking it even further... **CAUTION** 



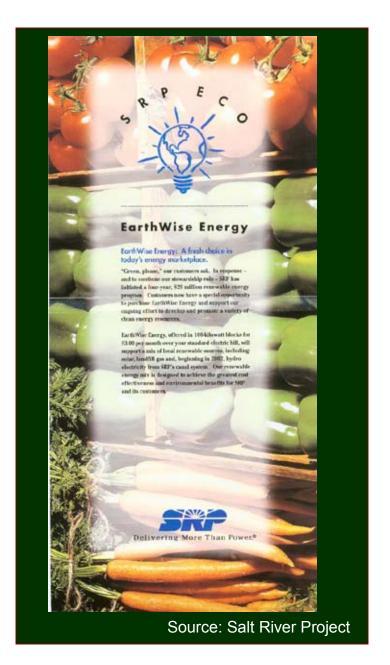
Center for **RESOURCE SOLUTIONS** 

Source: Salt River Project

Be Creative but Cautious

Be safe ...use companion text





- Amusing but Accurate
  - Funny always attracts interest,but...
    - Know your audience and its humor
      - Will they get and appreciate the joke?
      - What are you appealing to
      - Are renewables really funny?



Amusing but Accurate



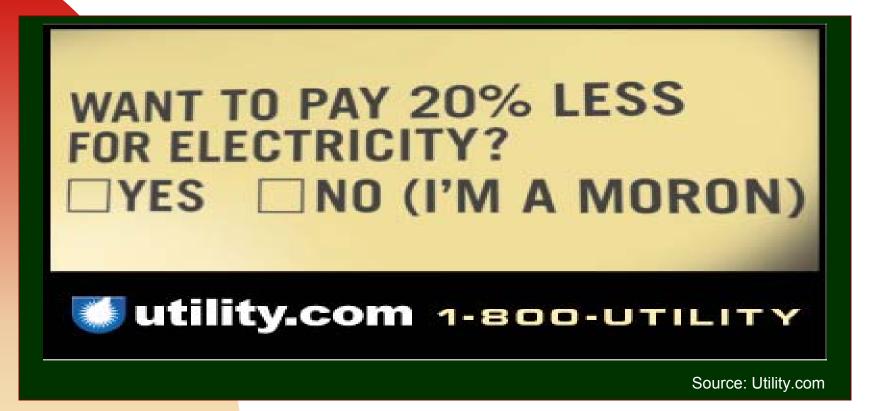
100% Pollution-free electricity. Yeah. That's what the big fans are for.



Source: Green Mountain



Amusing but Accurate





# ATTRACTING ATTENTION & INTEREST: THE VISUAL COMPONENT

- Specific but SIMPLE
  - Make the visual message clear and easy to interpret
    - Simple concepts deliver in ads (but who said green power was simple)
    - Not Rocket Science, but Common Sense
      - What images draw you in?
      - Or what images would draw your favorite "real" (non-energy) person in?



Specific but Simple



Source: Tennessee Valley

Specific but Simple

Don't forget the DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Good design fundamentals



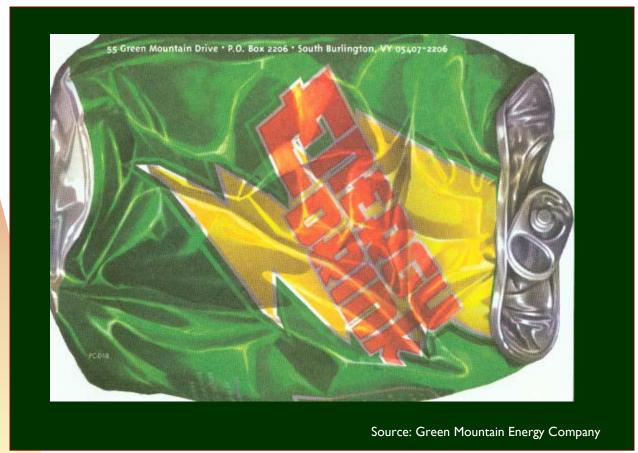


Center for

Specific but Simple

Don't forget the DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Poor design fundamentals





# GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES TO SOMETHING NEW: THE TEXTUAL COMPONENT

- Appeal to the Good in People
  - Lead with the Benefits
- Keep it Simple
  - Don't over-design: natural package for a "natural" product
    - Glossy does not mean successful
  - Less promotional & more direct text
  - Make participation clear & easy!
  - Third party verification
- Educate on the Basics
  - Mystery is confusion in green power
- REPEAT THE MESSAGE!!!!!



#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES: THE TEXT**

- Lead with the Benefits: Clearly describe direct consumer benefit
  - Focus on how purchases reduce impact
     & replacing polluting sources with green ones
  - Quantify environmental impact of purchase
  - Emphasize commitment to green power

Green power is an emotional purchase, so messages like "we have a responsibility to preserve the environment for future generations," and "individuals need to take personal responsibility for the environment," get results.



#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES**

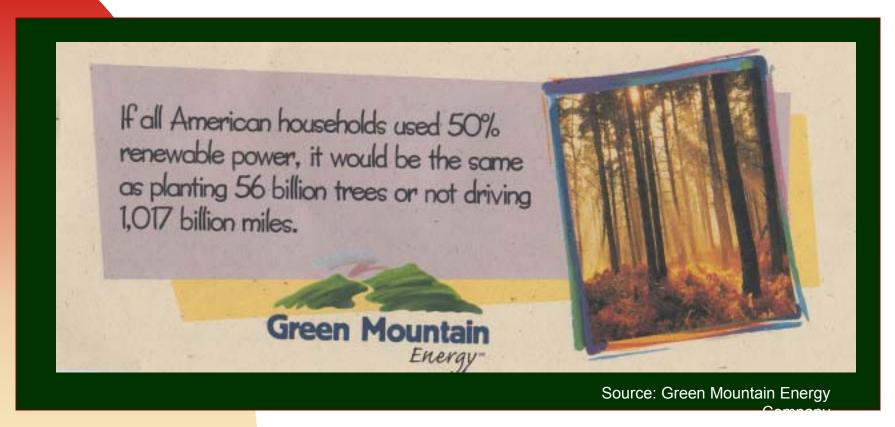
Lead with the benefits

Your participation in Green Power really does make a difference.
How's this for environmental impact?



#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES**

Lead with the benefits





#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES: THE TEXT**

Keep it Simple!!!

- Less promotional & more direct text
  - Answer key consumer questions
    - Use bold headers and subheaders
    - Don't get fancy on the font
- Make participation clear & easy!
  - Make enrollment & participation easy,
     toll free #, mail & on-line application process
     Different levels of participation must be clear



#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES**

Keep it Simple

...in language they understand





Source: Tucson Electric Power Company

#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES**

Keep it Simple!!!!!

Less promotional & more DIRECT text

#### 100% Green

When you join Greenergy, SMUD matches 100 percent of your electric needs with purchases of renewable resources for use on the SMUD power system. Resources that are restored by nature, like geothermal (steam produced by underground geysers) and biomass (gas created by waste decomposition) are used to create the energy for Greenergy, not conventional sources like coal or nuclear.\*



#### Certified Green-e

SMUD's Greenergy is certified 100% renewable by Green-e. Whenever you see the Green-e symbol the Center for Resource Solutions, an independent oversight board, has verified that the electricity you are buying comes from renewable resources,

#### Pennies a Day

The best part is, you can join Greenergy and make a difference for the environment for only pennies a day. When you join, you agree to pay an extra one cent per kilowatt-hour on your SMUD bill. To an average SMUD customer, that's less than your daily newspaper (about 25¢ a day).

#### Questions?

If you would like more information, please contact SMUD at 1-888-PIC-SMUD (1-888-742-7683) or check out the SMUD website at www.smud.org/green

\* Please' see the back of this brochure for the Power Content Label

Source: SMUD





#### GreenWatts Your choice for clean, green energy from

Tucson Electric Power Company

Now you can have a direct and positive impact on the environment in Southern Artzonal By simply enrolling in TEP's GreenWatts program, you can make more environmentally-friendly green power available to everyone. Everybody wins with GreenWatts!

- GreenWatts "blocks" are made available through TEP's Methane gas to energy project, which captures landfill methane gas and converts it to electricity.
- This TEP project will enrusily eliminate over 45,000 tons of pollutants from reaching the atmosphere in Southern Anzonal
- For as little as \$2 added to your bill each month, you can purchase a 20-killowatt hour brock of GreenWatts – additional blocks are only \$1.50 each
- All funds raised through GreenWatts go directly toward developing and operating more solar-powered generating facilities, reducing TEP's dependancy on fossil fuels!
- For more information on GreenWalts and complete details call TEP customer service at 623-7711, or visit us on the worldwide web at www.GreenWalts.com

#### Yes! I want to make a difference Sign me up for GreenWatts!

Name on account:

Printed Said

_ Circle one:	Residence	Business	
blocks	of an a compatato the fem and		
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	(\$2) each ad blocks	(\$2) each additional block (\$1 blocks)  blocks  to the block and the block in the term and the block in the b	(\$2) each additional block (\$1.50)

Thank you for "going green" with TEP!

Please complete this form and return it in you rest TEP bit, or sign up ordere at www. Green Watts Gom

You may also call TEP contomer Service at (\$20) \$23-7711 to see

Source: Tucson Electric Power

#### **GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES**

Keep it Simple!!!!!

Less promotional & more DIRECT text

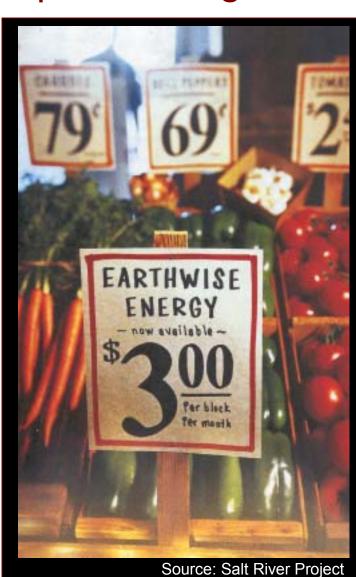
A natural package for a natural product

#### WHAT GETS PEOPLE TO SAY YES?

### Keep it Simple: Cost-based, simplified Pricing

- Consumers prefer flat rates
  - i.e. \$3 per block per month
  - Consumers don't understand the kWh
    - Do Understand Percentages (i.e., 100%)
  - Consumers don't know how many kWh they use or what the price per kWh should be
    - use "avg. household" to connect





### WHAT GETS PEOPLE TO SAY YES?

- Third Party Verification
  - Clear way to show product quality and inspire confidence in product







#### Questions and Answers

#### What is Green Power?

Green power is electricity produced in a environmentallyfriendly manner. Sources of green power include the sun, wind, and water, which are pollution free and natural.

#### Why should I sign up for Green Power?

The use of non-renewable sources of electricity contributes to air and water pollution, which affects all of us. By signing up for green power, you are helping to protect the environment. Green Power means cleaner air and a greener LA for us and our children.



LADWP will be recognizing companies who make significant commitments to new renewable energy. Recognition will be in many forms of publicity that showcase your company as a leader in environmental awareness and stewardship.

#### is green power more expensive than conventional power?

Yes. Environmentally-friendly generation of electricity costs more than using conventional methods of generation. Yet, many conventional sources of energy would not be economically competitive if we were to pay their full costs, including damage to the environment and human health. These costs are not reflected in our energy bills.

#### How much will signing up for green power cost me?

Commercial customers have the option of choosing their level of participation as a percentage of their electricity usage. However, this percentage must be set such that the minimum purchase is 500 kWh for general service customers or 1,000 kWh for large general service customers.

The green power charge of 3 cents per kWh will only be applied to that portion of your electricity usage you have allocated to new green resources.

#### Can energy efficiency lower my power bill?

Yes: Our energy efficiency experts can work with you to develop efficiency options for your business needs. Call us at 1-800-GREENLA.

#### Does LADWP intend to help develop new green power resources?

Through the Green Power for a Green LA program, LADWP buys electricity only from new renewable generation sources such as solar, wind, biomass and geothermal. Many of these new facilities will be located in the city, creating jabs and improving the environment. In order to justify developing these new generation sources, we are asking our customers to sign up for a minimum of 12 months.

If enough customers sign up, we can enlarge the market for green power and help make it a cost competitive alternative to power generated from fossil fuels such as coal.

Source: LADWP

#### GETTING PEOPLE TO SAY YES

- > Educate on the Basics: Q & A Model
- Question & Answer Model
  - Why use renewable resources?
  - What is green power?
  - Why does green power cost more?

- Getting too technical
  - Watch out for the grid!
  - Hold off on renewable energy jargon: most consumers don't speak our language
    - What is a Kwh? A megawatt? Emissions reductions?
- Attaching unrelated symbols and images
  - What does that have to do with green power?

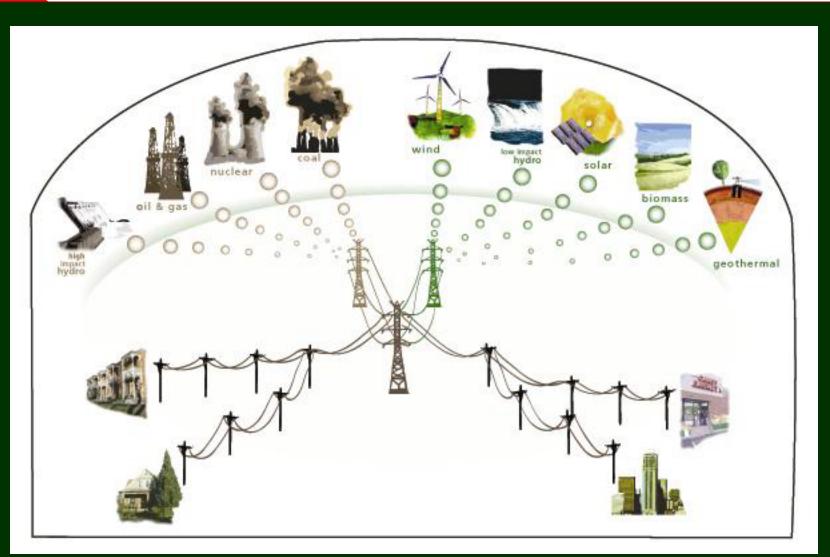


## Getting too technical

- To grid or not to grid...
   that is the question
  - Consumers don't need a specific explanation of how power gets to them
- Make sure you are speaking to consumers in the most clear and direct manor
  - Avoid technical energy terms when possible



Getting Too Technical



Source: Green-e Renewable Electricity

> Getting Too Technical





> Attaching Unrelated Images



Center for

Great, powerful campaign design, but PacifiCorp found that consumers had difficulty connecting the dog with green power



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Source: PacifiCorp

# DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE GREEN POWER MARKETING MESSAGES

- The Wrap-Up: What works
  - -To attract attention & interest, be:
    - <u>creative but cautious</u>, <u>amusing but accurate</u>, <u>specific but simple</u>
  - -To get your consumer to say "yes":
    - <u>lead with the benefits</u>, <u>keep it simple</u> (less promotional & more direct text), <u>educate on the basics</u> (Q&A model), <u>third party verification</u>
- What doesn't Work
  - -Getting too technical (in images and jargon)
  - -Attaching unrelated images



### **CONTACT CRS**

- To get more information on our domestic certification programs
- To join the Marketer's Marketers Group
- To receive monthly email updates on regional events, standards and developments

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